



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Labor and Training
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
PO Box 20190
Cranston, RI 02920-0942
T: (401)462-8100 F: (401)462-8105 TDD: (401)462-8006

Informational Letter #04-04
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YEAR 2004 COST OF LIVING INCREASE NOTIFICATION

Rhode Island General Law Sections 28-33-17(f)(1), Weekly Compensation for Total Incapacity, 28-33-18.3(b)(1), Continuation of Benefits – Partial Incapacity and 28-37-30, Cost of Living Increase, provide for annual benefit increases to certain classes of employees.

By the statutes listed above, the increases to these employees shall be by an amount equal to the total percentage increase in the annual Consumer Price Index, United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers' as formulated and computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor for the period of March 1 to February 28 each year.

COST OF LIVING INCREASE EFFECTIVE MAY 10, 2004 is 1.5%

Effective May 10, 2004, weekly benefits paid to these employees should be increased 1.5%. By statute, increases shall be paid by insurers and employers without further order of the court. Late payment of the increase may result in the assessment of a 20% penalty on the unpaid amount.

Questions regarding this increase may be addressed to an Education Unit Representative of the Department of Labor and Training at (401) 462-8110 and select option #1.

E. Jean Severance
Associate Director